

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 087975  
ORIGIN PA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03  
ACDA-10 NSAE-00 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-15  
TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 /077 R

DRAFTED BY PA/M:JACOLLINGE:REB  
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS STATE 087975

FOR KIMBALL FROM ROSHCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: PUBLIC OPINION

REF: USNATO 2187

1. AMERICAN PUBLIC BELIEVES WESTERN EUROPE VITAL TO US SECURITY, WANTS CLOSER TIES TO EUROPEAN ALLIES, IS INCREASINGLY WILLING TO DEFEND THEM. FIFTY-SIX PERCENT WOULD DEFEND AGAINST SOVIET ATTACK, UP EIGHT PERCENT SINCE 1975. THOSE UNWILLING TO DEFEND EUROPE DECLINED FROM 34 PERCENT IN 1975 TO 27 PERCENT: 17 PERCENT UNSURE. PUBLIC WANTS US TO BE LEADING MILITARY POWER, BUT ONLY 25 PERCENT WILLING TO INCREASE DEFENSE BUDGET. THIRTY-EIGHT PERCENT WANT STATUS QUO, 27 PERCENT DESIRE CUTS, 10 PERCENT UNSURE. HARRIS POLL LAST OCTOBER  
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SHOWED 63 PERCENT WISH TO "STRENGTHEN MILITARY SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WITH OUR ALLIES, SUCH AS NATO." ONLY 19 PERCENT DID NOT, 18 PERCENT UNSURE.

2. LITTLE PRESS COMMENT ON NATO. SOME MEDIA SUPPORT FOR STANDARDIZATION. SOME CONSERVATIVE EDITORIAL COMMENT (BUCKLEY, FOR EXAMPLE) FEARS MASSIVE SOVIET BUILD-

UP IMPLIES INTENT TO MOVE INTO WESTERN EUROPE; CLOSE,  
KEEGAN, LORD CHALFONTE CITED. LIBERAL PRESS SUPPORTS

MBFR. PREPONDERANCE OF PRESS BELIEVES "TOUGH" US POSI-  
TION ON BOTH SALT AND HUMAN RIGHTS BEST POLICY.  
VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, NATIONAL SECURITY, PUBLIC OPINION POLLS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, MILITARY POLICIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 19-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JACOLLINGE:REB  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** PUBLIC OPINION  
**TAGS:** PFOR, US, NATO  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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